

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flooring system, comprising:
 - a unitary flooring plank comprising:
 - a plurality of sides defining a perimeter having a recessed surface in predetermined locations;
 - a plurality of edge patterns, each edge pattern arranged proximate at least one first portion of the perimeter at a corresponding one of the sides, wherein at least two of the plurality of edge patterns are substantially identical; and
 - at least one bulk pattern arranged adjacent the plurality of edge patterns and proximate at least one second portion of the perimeter, wherein elements of at least one bulk pattern and elements of an edge pattern adjacent the at least one bulk pattern correspond in location and orientation to form a substantially continuous pattern across the bulk pattern and the edge pattern adjacent the at least one bulk pattern, wherein surfaces of the perimeter corresponding to the substantially continuous pattern are not recessed.
2. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises a decorative motif.
3. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises a decorative motif.

4. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture.

5. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture.

6. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

7. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

8. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

9. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

10. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein the at least one first portion and the at least one second portion of the perimeter constitute the perimeter.

11. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of edge patterns are formed on the at least one first portion of the perimeter.

12. (Original) The plank according to claim 11, wherein at least one edge pattern extends away from the perimeter by a predetermined distance.

13. (Original) The plank according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined distance is about 1 centimeter from the perimeter of the plank.

14. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one edge pattern extends along at least a portion of at least one of the plurality of sides.

15. (Original) The plank according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of edge patterns extend along an entirety of at least one of the plurality of sides.

16. (Currently Amended) A flooring system, comprising:
at least two unitary planks adjacent each other along a predetermined direction, wherein each plank comprises:

a plurality of sides defining a perimeter having a recessed surface in predetermined locations;

a plurality of edge patterns arranged proximate at least one first portion of the perimeter, wherein at least two of the plurality of edge patterns are substantially identical; and

at least one bulk pattern arranged adjacent the plurality of edge patterns and proximate at least one second portion of the perimeter wherein elements of at least one bulk pattern and elements of an edge pattern adjacent the at one least bulk pattern correspond with each other in orientation and position to form a substantially continuous pattern,

wherein elements of the edge patterns of two of the at least two planks correspond with each other in location and orientation to form a substantially continuous pattern crossing the two of the at least two planks, and wherein the bulk pattern in a first of the at least two planks and the bulk pattern in the second of the at least two planks are different, wherein surfaces of the perimeter corresponding to the substantially continuous pattern are not recessed.

17. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises a decorative motif.

18. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises a decorative motif.

19. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture.

20. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture.

21. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

22. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

23. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one edge pattern comprises an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

24. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

25. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein the at least one first portion and the at least one second portion of the perimeter constitute the perimeter.

26. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein the plurality of edge patterns are formed on the at least one first portion of the perimeter.

27. (Original) A plank according to claim 26, wherein at least one edge pattern extends away from the perimeter by a predetermined distance.

28. (Original) A plank according to claim 27, wherein the predetermined distance is about 1 centimeter from the perimeter of the plank.

29. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein at least one edge pattern extends along at least a portion of at least one of the plurality of sides.

30. (Original) A plank according to claim 16, wherein the plurality of edge patterns extend along an entirety of at least one of the plurality of sides.

31. (Original) The flooring system according to claim 16, further comprising a tongue extending from the perimeter of one edge of each plank and a groove running along the perimeter of the opposite edge of each plank, wherein any of said grooves is capable of receiving any of said tongues.

32. (Original) The flooring system according to claim 31, wherein only planks arranged in a direction such that the tongue of one planks fits into the groove of an adjacent plank fit together.

33. (Currently Amended) A laminate flooring system, comprising:
a unitary flooring panel having a plurality of sides defining a perimeter;
a surface of the unitary flooring panel having thereon a decorative motif embossed in
registration with a surface texture having an upper level and a lower level, said decorative motif comprising at least two edge patterns adjacent each of the sides of the panel and at least one bulk pattern in the interior of the panel and adjacent the edge pattern on each side, said edge patterns and said bulk pattern being different,

wherein at least one edge pattern along a side is substantially identical to the edge pattern in a corresponding position along an opposite side;

wherein at least one portion of the decorative motif along a side is substantially different from a corresponding portion of the decorative motif along an opposite side, and

wherein an upper level of at least a portion of the edge pattern is substantially coplanar with the bulk pattern such that the perimeter is not recessed and wherein a portion of the perimeter is recessed.

34. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the plurality of edge patterns comprise an embossed surface texture.

35. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture.

36. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the plurality of edge patterns comprise an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

37. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture in registration with a decorative motif.

38. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the plurality of edge patterns comprise an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

39. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the at least one bulk pattern comprises an embossed surface texture out of registration with a decorative motif.

40. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the plurality of edge patterns extend away from the perimeter by a predetermined distance.

41. (Original) The plank according to claim 40, wherein the predetermined distance is about 1 centimeter from the perimeter of the plank.

42. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, further comprising a tongue extending from the perimeter of one edge of the plank and a groove running along the perimeter of the opposite edge of the plank, wherein said groove is capable of receiving said tongue.

43. (Original) The plank according to claim 33, wherein the tongue interconnects with a groove of an adjacent plank.

44. (Currently Amended) A laminate flooring system comprising:
a first unitary flooring plank, the first unitary flooring plank having:
a rectangular shape having first and second short sides and first and second long sides; and

the rectangular shape having a first row and a second row of strips,

wherein the first and second rows have the same length as each other and are aligned with each other such that a portion of the outer edges of the first and second rows cooperatively define a perimeter of the rectangular shape;

wherein the first row has a full unbroken strip; and

wherein the second row has at least two partial strips; and

wherein an edge pattern on an edge of the second row adjacent the first short side and an edge pattern along an edge of the second row adjacent the second short side are the same as each other and are continuous; and

wherein a perimeter of the edge patterns of the second row of the first unitary plank is not recessed.

45. (Currently Amended) The laminate flooring system of claim 44, further comprising:

a second unitary flooring plank having a rectangular shape

the rectangular shape of the second flooring plank having first and second short sides and first and second long sides; and

the rectangular shape having first and second rows of strips,

wherein the first and second rows have the same length as each other;

wherein the first row has a full unbroken strip;

wherein the second row has at least two partial strips;

wherein an edge pattern on an edge of the second row adjacent the first short side and an edge pattern along an edge of the second row adjacent the second short side are the same as each other and are continuous; and

wherein the edge patterns of the second row [[in]] of the first unitary plank are continuous with as the edge patterns of the second row of the second unitary plank; and wherein a perimeter of the edge patterns of the second row of the second unitary plank is not recessed.

46. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 45, wherein the first unitary flooring plank connects with the second unitary flooring plank; and wherein the full unbroken strip of the first flooring plank connects with the complete strip of the second flooring plank.

47. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 45, wherein the second row of the first unitary flooring plank has a first and second partial strip and the second row of the second unitary flooring plank has a first and second partial strip; wherein the second partial strip of the first unitary flooring plank connects to the first partial strip of the second unitary flooring plank.

48. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 44, wherein the full unbroken strip, the first partial strip, and the second partial strip of the first unitary flooring plank are separated by bevels embossed into the surface of the first unitary flooring plank.

49. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 45, wherein the full unbroken strip, the first partial strip, and the second partial strip of the second unitary flooring plank are separated by bevels embossed into the surface of the second unitary flooring plank.

50. (Currently Amended) A laminate flooring system, comprising:
a plurality of unitary flooring panels including at least a first, second, and third unitary
flooring planks, each of said unitary flooring planks having:
a rectangular shape having first and second short sides and first and second long
sides, the rectangular shape having a first and second row of strips, wherein the first and second
rows have the same length and are aligned with each other such that a portion of the outer edges
of the first and second rows cooperatively define a perimeter of the rectangular shape;
the first row having a first strip, said first strip being an unbroken complete strip;
and
the second row having a second partial strip and a third partial strip, the second
and third partial strips having a continuous edge pattern along an edge of the short side;
a portion of the perimeter of each respective plank being recessed where patterns of
adjacent planks are continuous and a portion of the perimeter of each respective plank where
patterns of adjacent planks are discontinuous.

51. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein a
pattern of the first strip adjacent a short side of the rectangular shape is not continuous.

52. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 51, wherein the
pattern of the first strip that is not continuous is a bevel.

53. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the third partial strip of the first unitary plank connects to the second partial strip of the second unitary plank.

54. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the third partial strip of the first unitary plank connects to the second partial strip of the third unitary plank.

55. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the third partial strip of the first unitary plank connects to the second partial strip of the second unitary plank and the second partial strip of the first unitary plank connects to the third partial strip of the third unitary plank.

56. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 55, wherein the second and third unitary planks can be interchanged and the edge patterns of the partial strips in the second row of adjacent unitary planks match.

57. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the combined length of the second and third partial strips is the same as the length of the first strip.

58. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein all four sides of the first row are beveled.

59. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the second and third partial strips have a bevel between them; and

wherein a bevel is between the first strip and the second partial strip and the first strip and the third partial strip.

60. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the side of the second partial strip having the continuous edge pattern does not have a bevel and the side of the third partial strip having the continuous edge pattern does not have a bevel.

61. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein the plurality of unitary flooring panels can be installed in any order to give the appearance of a random pattern of complete strips.

62. (Previously Presented) The laminate flooring system of claim 50, wherein each of said unitary flooring planks in said plurality includes an interlocking joint that only allows adjacent planks to be locked together such that first rows of planks are adjacent to other first rows in a direction parallel to the long sides of the rectangular shape of the unitary flooring planks.